CCRB INVESTIGATIVE RECOMMENDATION

Investigator:		Team:	CCRB Case #:		Force	✓ Discou	rt C	און ד
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Rolando Vasquez		Squad #13	201901262		Abuse	O.L.	L] Injury
Incident Date(s)		Location of Incident:	-	Pr	ecinct:	18 Mo. SO	L	EO SOL
Thursday, 01/31/2019 10:15 AM		149th Street and 3rd Assubway station	venue (2/5 line)		40	7/31/2020		3/17/2021
Date/Time CV Reported		CV Reported At:	How CV Reported	: I	Date/Time	Received at C	CRB	
Thu, 01/31/2019 1:24 PM		IAB	Phone	N	Mon, 02/1	1/2019 11:08	AM	
Complainant/Victim	Type	Home Addre	ess					•
Witness(es)		Home Addre	ess					ı
Subject Officer(s)	Shield	TaxID	Command					
1. POM Andrew Nguyen	13120	946057	TB DT12					
2. POM Ioannis Ladas	07804	955035	TB DT12					
3. POM Giorgi Eristavi	15427	963974	TB DT12					
4. POM Jose Espinal	20244	963977	TB DT12					
5. SGT Mayky Santos	02317	944982	040 PCT					
6. An officer			TB DT12					
Witness Officer(s)	Shield N	o Tax No	Cmd Name					
1. POM Anil Sugrim	07029	931281	TB DT12					
Officer(s)	Allegatio	on			Inve	stigator Rec	omn	nendation
A.POM Andrew Nguyen		esy: Police Officer Andreously to § 87(2)(b)	rew Nguyen spoke					
B.POM Andrew Nguyen	Force: Po	olice Officer Andrew Ng	guyen used physical	force				
C.POM Giorgi Eristavi	Force: Poagainst §	olice Officer Giorgi Eris 87(2)(b)	tavi used physical fo	orce				
D.POM Jose Espinal	Force: Police Officer Jose Espinal used physical force against \$87(2)(b)							
E.POM Ioannis Ladas	Force: Police Officer Ioannis Ladas used physical force against \$87(2)(b)							
F. An officer	Force: A	n officer used physical f	Force against § 87(2)(b)					
G.POM Ioannis Ladas		Police Officer Ioannis La use of force.	das threatened § 87(2)	(b)				
H.POM Andrew Nguyen	Force: Po § 87(2)(b)	olice Officer Andrew Ng	guyen used a Taser a	agains	st			
I.POM Andrew Nguyen		olice Officer Andrew N ith the use of force.	guyen threatened § 8	7(2)				
J.POM Andrew Nguyen	Force: Po § 87(2)(b)	olice Officer Andrew Ng	guyen used a Taser a	agains	st			

Officer(s)	Allegation	Investigator Recommendation
K.POM Andrew Nguyen	Force: Police Officer Andrew Nguyen used a Taser against \$87(2)(b)	
L.POM Giorgi Eristavi	Discourtesy: Police Officer Giorgi Eristavi spoke discourteously to §87(2)(b)	
M.SGT Mayky Santos	Discourtesy: Sergeant Mayky Santos spoke discourteously to \$87(2)(b)	
N.SGT Mayky Santos	Abuse: Sergeant Mayky Santos threatened §87(2)(b) with the use of force.	
O. An officer	Abuse: An officer deleted information on §87(2)(b) s electronic device.	

Case Summary

On January 31, 2019, \$67(2)(b) filed this complaint with IAB by phone. The CCRB received the complaint on February 11, 2019.

On January 31, 2019, at approximately 10:30 a.m., \$87(2)(b) was at the 149 th Street and 3 rd
Avenue (2/5 line) subway station in the Bronx. §87(2)(b) encountered PO Andrew Nguyen, PO
Ionnis Ladas, PO Giorgi Eristavi, and PO Jose Espinal of Transit District 12. PO Nguyen allegedly
told \$87(2)(b) "Who the fuck do you think you are?" (Allegation A: Discourtesy, \$87(2)(9)
PO Nguyen hit \$87(2)(b) in the face (Allegation B: Force, \$87(2)(9) PO Eristavi, PO
Espinal, and PO Ladas pushed \$87(2)(b) against an emergency gate and pushed him to the floor
(Allegations C-E: Force, \$87(2)(9) An officer allegedly punched \$87(2)(6) in the back and
ribs (Allegation F: Force , \$87(2)(9) PO Ladas threatened \$87(2)(b) with the use of
force (Allegation G: Abuse of Authority, \$87(2)(9) PO Nguyen allegedly used a Taser against
three times (Allegation H: Force, Unfounded, Allegation J-K: Force:
PO Nguyen threatened § 87(2)(b) with the use of force (Allegation I: Abuse of
Authority, § 87(2)(9) PO Eristavi told § 87(2)(b) to "Shut the fuck up" (Allegation L:
Discourtesy, \$87(2)(9) Sgt. Mayky Santos of the 40 th Precinct arrived on scene after \$87(2)(b)
was handcuffed and allegedly spoke discourteously toward him and threatened him with the use of
force (Allegation M-N: Discourtesy, Abuse of Authority, \$87(2)(9) An officer allegedly
deleted information from §87(2)(b) s cell phone (Allegation O: Abuse of Authority,
§ 87(2)(g) was arrested and charged with assault. § 87(2)(b), § 87(2)(c) (impair contract awards or CBAs)

Body worn camera video of the incident was obtained, and is attached to IA #71-75 and is summarized in IA#118 (BR01). Cell phone video of the incident was obtained, and is attached to IA#96 and summarized in IA #120 (BR02).

Findings and Recommendations

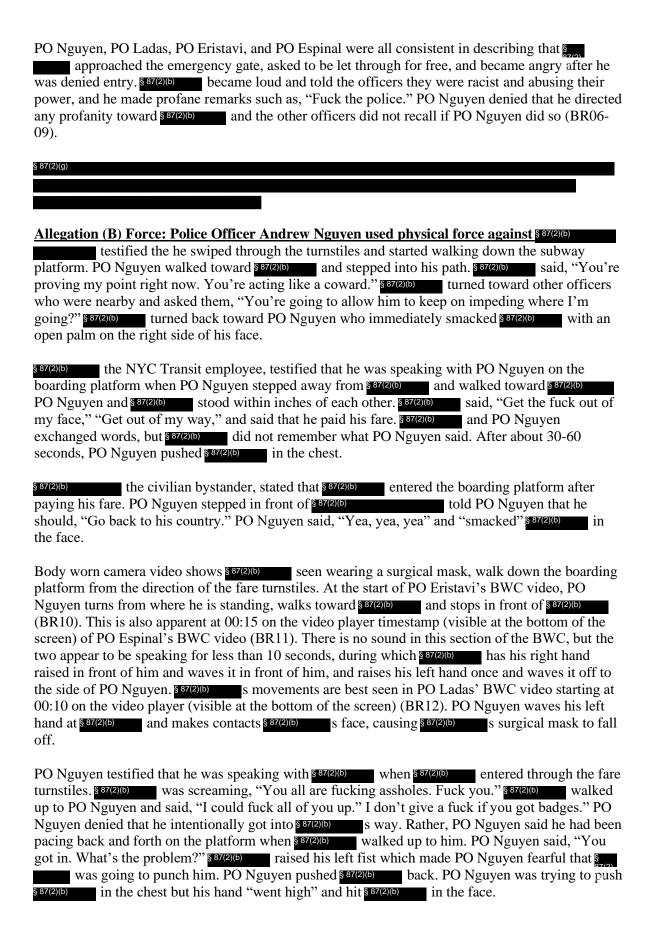
Allegation (A) Discourtesy: Police Officer Andrew Nguyen spoke discourteously to 887(2)(b)

It is undisputed that \$37(2)(b) entered the subway station and spoke with PO Nguyen about obtaining entry to the subway platform without paying for a Metrocard. After \$87(2)(b) s request was denied, he paid for a Metrocard, and swiped his way through the turnstiles.

testified that he asked PO Nguyen, PO Ladas, PO Eristavi, and PO Espinal, who were standing behind an emergency gate, if he could give them money to cover his fare because he was in a rush. PO Nguyen responded, "Who the fuck do you think you are?" \$87(2)(b) responded, "There's no need for that. Right now you're acting like unprofessional cowards and pieces of shit." purchased a Metrocard and entered through the turnstiles (BR03).

an independent civilian bystander, said he observed from the subway platform about five feet away, \$37(2)(b) approach the officers and ask to be allowed into the subway station. PO Nguyen told him, "No, you pay." \$87(2)(b) asked again and received the same response from PO Nguyen. \$87(2)(b) walked away. \$87(2)(b) did not hear PO Nguyen tell "Who the fuck do you think you are" (BR04).

an NYC Transit employee who witnessed a later part of the incident, did not witness s initial interaction with PO Nguyen (BR05).



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PO Ladas, PO Espinal, and PO Eristavi were consistent in describing that \$87(2)(b) and PO Nguyen came to be face-to-face with one another, but they did not remember if \$87(2)(b) made any threats toward anyone who was present. All three officers said PO Nguyen pushed \$87(2)(b) seemingly because \$87(2)(b) was so close to PO Nguyen.

Officers may use force when it is reasonable to ensure the safety of a member of service. In all circumstances, any application or use of force must be reasonable under the circumstances. In determining whether the use of force is reasonable, the following factors are to be considered: 1) the nature and severity of the crime/circumstances, 2) actions taken by the subject, 3) duration of the action, 4) immediacy of the perceived threat or harm. When appropriate and consistent with personal safety, officers will use de-escalation techniques in order to stabilize a situation and reduce the immediacy of the threat so that more time, options, and resources become available. NYPD Patrol Guide, Procedure 221-01 (BR13).

The video evidence and witness statements from \$87(2)(b) and \$87(2)(b) contradict PO Nguyen's account and show that PO Nguyen walked into \$87(2)(b) s path. It is undisputed that used profanity and spoke disparagingly toward PO Nguyen, which supports the officers' account that \$87(2)(b) became angry after being denied free entry into the subway station. However, rather than de-escalate the situation, PO Nguyen's actions increased the likelihood of a physical confrontation, as evidenced by \$87(2)(b) s account that \$87(2)(b) verbally expressed agitation about PO Nguyen getting in his way. The video evidence shows \$87(2)(b) making various hand motions while he and PO Nguyen are right next to each other. However, none of these motions signal are consistent with an obvious intent to become violent toward PO Nguyen. They are more consistent with \$87(2)(b) trying to gesture that he was either going or wanted to go around PO Nguyen. The video shows, and PO Nguyen acknowledged, him striking \$87(2)(b) in the face, albeit PO Nguyen said he meant to make contact with \$87(2)(b) s chest and inadvertently struck his face.

§ 87(2)(g)	

Allegation (C) Force: Police Officer Giorgi Eristavi used physical force against \$87(2)(b)

Allegation (D) Force: Police Officer Jose Espinal used physical force against \$87(2)(b)

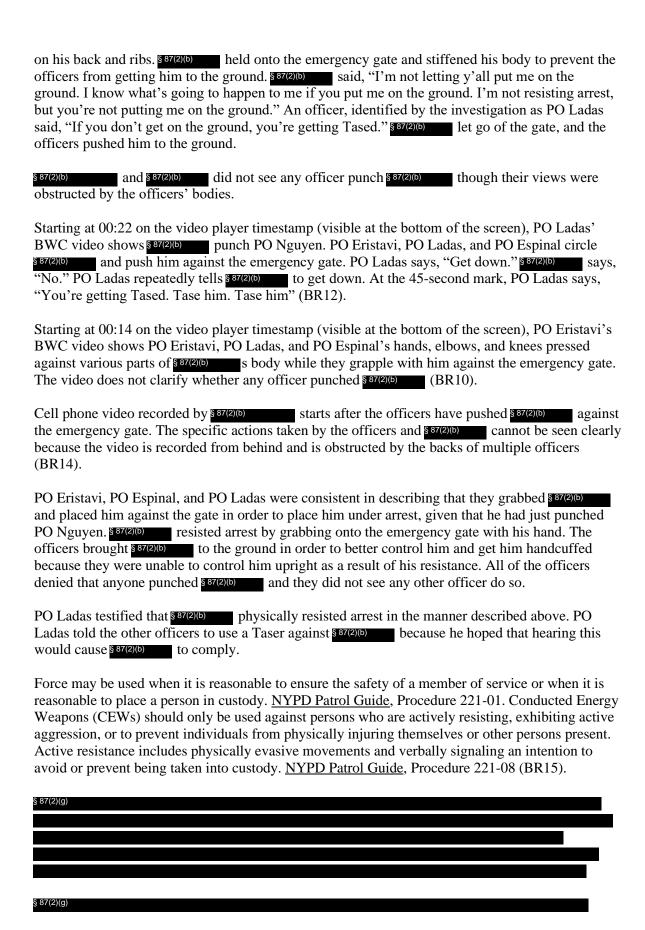
Allegation (E) Force: Police Officer Ioannis Ladas used physical force against \$87(2)(b)

Allegation (F) Force: An officer used physical force against \$87(2)(b)

Allegation (G) Abuse of Authority: Police Officer Ioannis Ladas threatened \$87(2)(b) with the use of force.

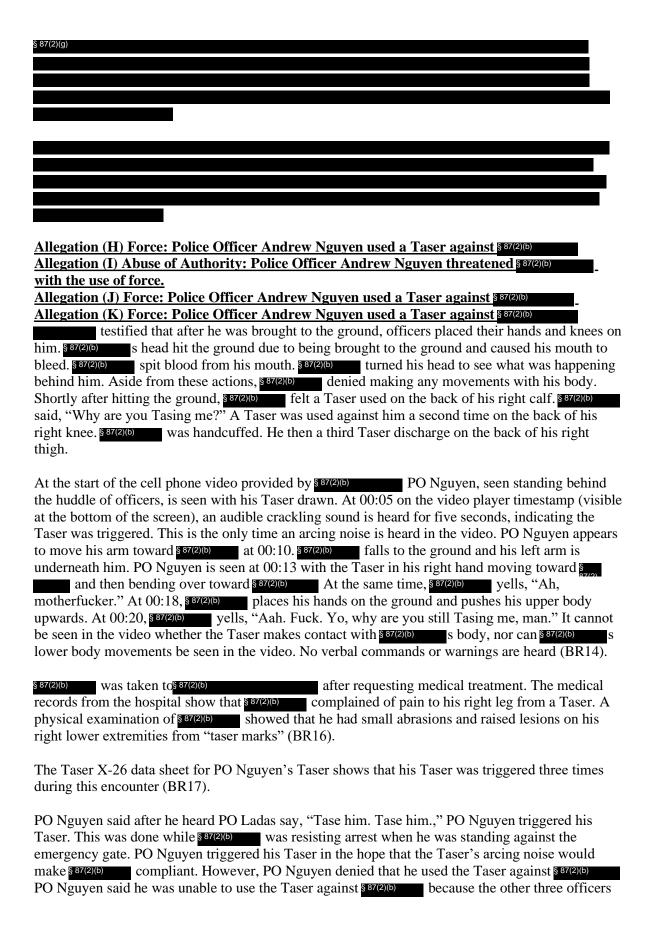
The following facts are undisputed. The following punched PO Nguyen after PO Nguyen made physical contact with \$87(2)(b) PO Eristavi, PO Espinal, and PO Ladas, grabbed \$87(2)(b) and pushed him against an emergency gate. \$87(2)(b) held onto the emergency gate with his hands which prevented the officers from bringing him to the ground. PO Eristavi, PO Espinal, and PO Ladas were able to bring \$87(2)(b) to the ground, where he was ultimately handcuffed.

testified that PO Eristavi, PO Espinal, and PO Ladas grabbed him and pushed him against the emergency gate. An officer, [\$87(2)(b)] did not know who, punched him "a few times"



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were in the way while §87(2)(b) was against the emergency gate.
PO Nguyen testified that after the other officers brought for the ground, he went toward services feet and held them down with his hands and knees because for was kicking. At some point, PO Nguyen accidentally discharged his Taser while it was in his hand, but he did not remember if he was holding it at the same time he was holding down from selegs. When shown the X-26 data sheet during his CCRB interview, PO Nguyen stated that the third discharge was possibly a second accidental discharge, but he did not remember. Aside from kicking, PO Nguyen did not know if from where he was positioned. PO Nguyen denied that he ever used a Taser against from where he was positioned. PO Nguyen denied that he ever used a Taser
PO Espinal, PO Ladas, and PO Eristavi gave various accounts of \$87(2)(b) s physical resistance after he was on the ground. None of the officers remembered if \$87(2)(b) kicked his legs. PO Espinal stated that \$87(2)(b) shook his upper body while officers were trying to handcuff him. PO Ladas stated that \$87(2)(b) was compliant. PO Eristavi stated that \$87(2)(b) was shaking his head and upper body once he was on the ground. PO Eristavi also stated that \$87(2)(b) tried biting PO Eristavi's finger which prompted PO Eristavi to hold \$87(2)(b) s head down against the ground.
According to the Taser manufacturer's manual, a CEW's electrical current is relatively quiet when both probes make direct contact with a human (BR22). CEWs should only be used against persons who are actively resisting, exhibiting active aggression, or to prevent individuals from physically injuring themselves or other persons present. Active resistance includes physically evasive movements and verbally signaling an intention to avoid or prevent being taken into custody.

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§ 87(2)(g)
Allegation (L) Discourtesy: Police Officer Giorgi Eristavi spoke discourteously to 887(2)(b)
At 00:43 on the video player timestamp (visible at the bottom of the screen), as officers struggle on the ground to get handcuffed, he yells, "Ah, motherfucker." In response, PO Eristavi tells "Shut the fuck up" (BR10). At 00:47, an officer tells [\$37(2)(5)] "Put your hands behind your back." At 00:48, [\$37(2)(5)] yells, "Ah. Fuck. Why you still Tasing me, man?" At 01:00, the handcuffs are heard being locked on [\$37(2)(5)]
PO Eristavi acknowledged telling [887(2)(b)] to "shut the fuck up" and reasoned that he was frustrated and angry with [887(2)(b)] given that [887(2)(b)] had been disrespectful to the officers, punched PO Nguyen, and physically resisted arrest.
Officers must respect the dignity of each individual and render their services with courtesy and civility. NYPD Patrol Guide, Procedure 200-02 (BR18). Officers have a responsibility to act with decorum in their interactions with civilians, though there are certain situations where profane remarks made during a stressful or chaotic situation do not constitute misconduct. DAO-DCT Disciplinary Case No. 2018-18951 (BR 23).
§ 87(2)(g)
Allegation (M) Discourtesy: Sergeant Mayky Santos spoke discourteously to S87(2)(b) Allegation (N) Abuse of Authority: Sergeant Mayky Santos threatened S87(2)(b) with the use of force. S87(2)(b) testified that additional officers arrived on the boarding platform after he was handcuffed. S87(2)(b) was stood up and walked to the stairs to bring him outside. S87(2)(b) was screaming because he was in pain due to the handcuffs. Sgt. Santos told S87(2)(b) "Stop screaming. The handcuffs are good. If you continue to do that, we're going to beat the shit out of you again. You want that shit to happen again? You want that shit that happened right now to happen again?" S87(2)(b) was walked outside.
The officers involved in §87(2)(b) s arrest made a radio transmission requesting additional officers to the location. BWC video shows that Sgt. Santos was one of the officers who arrived in response.
At 05:00 on the video player timestamp (visible at the bottom of the screen), Sgt. Santos arrives to the subway station as \$87(2)(6) are is being walked outside (BR12). \$87(2)(6) are complains about discomfort from the handcuffs. Sgt. Santos tells \$87(2)(6) are that he should not have fought with his officers. No officer says anything to the effect of, "We're going to beat the shit out of you again.

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You want that shit to happen again? You want that shit that happened right now to happen again?"

§ 87(2)(g)
Allegation (O) Abuse of Authority: An officer deleted information on 887(2)(b) s electronic
device.
testified that \$87(2)(b) identified via investigation, spoke with him after he was
handcuffed and told him he recorded the incident. \$87(2)(b) gave \$87(2)(b) his phone number
and \$87(2)(b) said he would send him the video. \$87(2)(b) s wife retrieved \$87(2)(b) s
property from the stationhouse. §87(2)(b) had to contact §87(2)(b) to obtain the video again in
order to secure it for \$87(2)(b) s court appearances. \$87(2)(b) alleged that officers deleted the
video from his phone, though he did not see this happen.
provided a phone statement to the CCRB, in which he said he attempted to forward
the video to \$87(2)(b) s cell phone after the incident, but received an error message and was
unable to send the video. Someone got in touch with \$87(2)(b) at a later date and asked him to
resend the video, which he did.
Tesend the video, which he did:
§ 87(2)(g)

Civilian and Officer CCRB Histories

- This is the first CCRB complaint to which § 87(2)(b) has been a party (BR19).
- PO Nguyen has been a member of the service for 11 years, and has been a subject in three prior CCRB complaints and three allegations, one of which was substantiated.
 - CCRB 201505345 involved a substantiated physical force allegation against PO Nguyen. Specifically, the allegation involved PO Nguyen pushing a civilian through a subway emergency gate and slapping the civilian in the face. The Board recommended Charges and the NYPD imposed the forfeiture of five vacation days.
- PO Ladas, PO Espinal, and PO Eristavi have been members of the service for six, two, and two years, respectively. This is the first complaint in which they have been subjects.
- Sgt. Santos has been a member of the service for 12 years and has been a subject in eight CCRB complaints involving 13 allegations, none of which were substantiated.

 887(2)(g)

Mediation, Civil and Criminal Histories

- This complaint was not suitable for mediation.
- \$87(2)(b) filed a Notice of Claim with the City of New York claiming physical injuries, emotional distress, unlawful arrest and seeking \$30 million as redress (BR20). No 50-H hearing has been scheduled.

Squad No.:	13		
Investigator:	Rolando Vasquez Signature	SI Rolando Vasquez Print Title & Name	04/22/2020 Date
Squad Leader:	Laura Kastner Signature	IM Laura Kastner Print Title & Name	04/22/2020 Date